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PORT OF GREAT YARMOUTH



The Report of the Port Medical Officer

1961.

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INTRODUCTION.

This report is again compiled in accordance with the revised form and sequence suggested by the Ministry of Health in circular 33/52. Information under sections I, V, XIV, XV and XVI has not been repeated as there has been no change from the previous report.

The Public Health (Ships) (Amendment) Regulations 1961 came into operation in January. They extended the definition of “excepted port” to include any coastal port in the Federal Republic of Germany or in Italy. Ships coming from excepted ports are not required to comply with certain requirements of the regulations unless the port medical officer considers that compliance is necessary on account of danger to public health. The exemption for ships forming part of the armed forces of certain countries is extended to include ships of the armed forces of any Commonwealth country and any other country to which the Visiting Forces Act, 1952, has been applied.

During the year the Maritime Declaration of Health which has to be filled in by masters of ships arriving at the port of Great Yarmouth was revised. The list of diseases which should be declared was amended and also the instruction to masters on the notification of infectious disease, etc., on board.

Section I — STAFF

TABLE A.

No change.

Section II — AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the M.O.H.	By the Inspectors	
Foreign Ports			—	145	—
Coastwise			—	41	—
Total			—	186	—

Section III — CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

There was no passenger traffic during the year.

CARGO TRAFFIC.

At the time of writing it is not possible to obtain separate information on the principal imports and exports in the form usually provided in the report. This information will be included in the report as soon as it is available. In the meantime the following table shows the amount of cargo handled at the port either as imports or exports for the year ended 24th March 1961 :—

Cattle (Head)	287
Coal (Tons)	145,772
Groceries (Tons)	23,200
Grain and Seeds (Qtrs.)	215,442
Manures (Tons)	39,476
Meal, etc. (Tons)	13,174
Metals, Scrap Iron, etc. (Tons)	9,527
Miscellaneous Goods (figure to be supplied later)	
Paper, Strawboards, etc (Tons)	11,791
Petrol, Paraffin, Fuel Oil, etc. (Tons)	554,859
Salt (Tons)	3,359
Stone, Broken Granite, etc. (Tons)	6,692
Wood (Loads)	72,001
Herrings (cured) (Tons)	1,783
Herrings (uncured) (Crans)	19,781

PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE.

Belgium—Antwerp.
Denmark—Fredricksund, Copenhagen.
East Germany—Rostock, Wismar.
West Germany—Hamburg, Bremen.
Finland—Kotka, Abo, Kemi.
Holland—Rotterdam.
Norway—Christiansund, Oslo, Trondheim.
Sweden—Stockholm, Kalmar, Gothenburg.
Poland—Stettin.

Section IV — INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There was no inland barge traffic during the year.

Section V — WATER SUPPLY

No change.

Section VI — PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952 - 1961

1. LIST OF INFECTED AREAS.

Information regarding ports in Europe and on the Mediterranean coast is extracted from the World Health Organisation's weekly list, and a copy of this information is forwarded by post to the Waterguard Office of the local Custom House.

(1) Ships arriving from foreign ports are examined by the Inspector in the first instance, and if any evidence is found the Rodent Officer is called in to make a more extensive search.

(2) When required, bacteriological and pathological examinations of rodents are carried out on behalf of the authority by the Public Health Laboratory, Norwich. No rodents were sent for examination during the year.

(3) Great Yarmouth is not an "approved port" for "deratting" but when any action is required trapping and poisoning is carried out by the staff of the local authority.

(4) Efforts are made to secure the efficient rat-proofing of ships, and particular attention is paid to foodstores, storerooms, etc.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year :—

Category	Number			Total
	In ships from for- eign ports	In coastwise ships and fish- ing vessels	In docks, quays, wharfs and warehouses	
Black rats	—	—	—	—
Brown Rats	—	2	105	107
Species not known	—	—	—	—
Sent for examination	—	—	—	—
Infected with plague	—	—	—	—

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports :—

Great Yarmouth is not an approved port

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951.

Two rodent control certificates were issued in accordance with Article 3(2)(b) of the Order.

The object of the issue of these certificates is to provide port authorities with the information that coastwise vessels are free or have recently been freed from rats and mice. They are valid for four months from the date of issue.

Section XIII — INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices :—

Nature and number of inspections		Notices served		Result of serving notices
		Statutory notices	*Other notices	
British ships	57	—	1	1 complied with
Foreign ships	129	—	5	5 complied with
British fishing vessels	—	—	—	—
Total	186	—	6	6 complied with

* Including oral notices

Section XIV — PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948.

No change.

Section XV — MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

No change.

Section XVI — MISCELLANEOUS

No change.

FOOD INSPECTION

PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937-1948

During the year imported food regularly arrived from Holland. This comprised canned luncheon meats, canned ham, biscuits, lard, cheese, chocolate, canned fruits and onions. In addition fresh vege-

tables regularly arrived and these were found to be of high quality throughout.

Inspection and sampling of imported food were carried out over the year. The samples were submitted to Dr. E. C. Wood, the Public Analyst.

Number of inspections of consignments of imported food : 247.

The following table shows the number of samples obtained and submitted to Dr. Wood for examination, with results of analysis :—

	No. submitted	Result
Biscuits	2	Genuine
Chocolate	1	Genuine
Can of Raspberries	1	Genuine
*Can of Chopped Pork with Ham	1	Not Genuine

*This sample was reported not genuine by the Public Analyst because it was found to contain not more than 90% meat, and in his opinion this food should contain at least 95% meat. The importers were informed of the deficiency and they have taken the matter up with the manufacturers in Holland. At the time of writing this report, a reply is still awaited from the manufacturers.

2. RADIO MESSAGES.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district—Although Great Yarmouth is not a radio transmitting port, radio messages can be sent to ships through the Humber or North Foreland transmitting stations.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon—Arrangements for the receipt of radio messages are the same as for those for transmission. The telegraphic address is Portelth, Great Yarmouth.

3. NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO.

Messages are received by telephone from H.M. Inspector of Customs and Excise.

4. MOORING STATIONS.

(a) Within the docks—A berth will be made available, its situation being subject to conditions prevailing in the harbour at the time.

(b) Outside the docks—Yarmouth Roads anchorage.

5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR :—

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than

Smallpox—see Section VII).—Accommodation for infectious diseases other than smallpox is available at the Estcourt Hospital, Great Yarmouth.

(b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts—The surveillance and follow-up of contacts would be undertaken by the Port Health Inspector under the direction of the Port Medical Officer.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.—In case of infectious disease, disinfection is carried out by the staff of the local authority. Persons are cleansed and clothing and other articles are disinfected as required under arrangements made by the local authority at the Northgate Hospital.

Section VII — SMALLPOX

(1) Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board, smallpox cases would be admitted to Ipswich Smallpox Hospital.

(2) It has been agreed that Ipswich Ambulance Service would undertake responsibility for all arrangements for transport of smallpox cases to hospital. Applications for transport would be sent to the Resident Medical Officer, St. Helen's Hospital, Ipswich (Telephone number Ipswich 77211). The Ipswich Authority is responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Smallpox consultants available :—

Dr. W. A. Oliver, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.

Dr. A. G. Smith, 24 Unthank Road, Norwich.

(4) Specimens for laboratory examination would be sent to the Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, The Hyde, London, N.W.9.

Section VIII — VENEREAL DISEASE

Great Yarmouth V.D. Clinic is situated in Churchill Road, and sessions at which merchant seamen can attend are held as follows :—

Mondays 9.30 a.m. — 10.30 a.m.

Wednesdays 2.30 p.m. — 6 p.m.

In-patient treatment when required would be carried out under the arrangements of the Regional Hospital Board.

Masters of vessels are asked to report any cases of venereal disease among the crew, and advice is given as to when and where treatment may be obtained. Information slips regarding the clinic are issued to masters and ships' agents.

**Section IX — CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS
DISEASES IN SHIPS**

TABLE D. — Nil.

**Section X — OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF
MALARIA IN SHIPS**

No cases of malaria occurred in ships entering the port.

**Section XI — MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED
WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE**

No ships infected with or suspected for plague arrived at the port.

**Section XII — MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM
FOREIGN PORTS**